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# HAMLIN'S MENAGERIE MAGAZINE.

No. 6.—Vol. 5.

OCTOBER, 1919.

Price One Shilling.

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# JOHN D. HAMLYN,

221, St. George's Street, London Docks, E. 1.

Ten minutes from Mark Lane and Aldgate Stations. Fifteen minutes from London Bridge Station.  
Buses pass Leman Street, Whitechapel, from all parts thence five minutes walk.

F.O.O. payable at Leman Street, East.

Cheques crossed "London County & Westminster Bank"

ALL PREVIOUS LISTS HEREBY CANCELLED.

**TERMS.—NOTICE.**—All goods are sold for prompt cash, and Customers must take all risk from time of leaving my establishment. Stock once sold cannot be taken back. **TELEPHONE.**—Orders can be received on telephone, 4360 AVENUE from any part of Great Britain any time day and night. **LETTERS.**—Are answered by return of post, and orders executed same day received. Full name and address with every communication. **DELIVERY.**—Stock is generally delivered direct to the various London Railway Termini but no particular train can be guaranteed. **PURCHASING.**—I am always open to purchase new duplicates or other stock. Kindly make offers for same

## Arrivals of Wild Animals in Great Britain.

Commencing January, 1919.

COMPILED BY JOHN D. HAMLYN.

### BOSTOCK—

May, 1919. 1 Leopard, with few small African animals.

### HAMLYN—

February. 1 Mandrill.  
3 Monkeys.  
March. 4 Baboons.  
1 Serval.  
1 Cinet.  
13 Pandas.  
1 Cat.  
400 Monkeys.  
April 4 Sea Lions.  
May 2 Zebras.  
6 Porcupines.  
1 Hunting Dog.  
2 Dingoes.  
1 Thar.  
8 Baboons.  
2 Meercats.  
June. 1 Hyæna.  
15 Rhesus.  
1 Bonnet.  
1 Malabar Squirrel.  
1 Hamadrias Baboon.  
21 Penguins.

July. 8 Seals, 11 Mynahs, 120 Avadavats, 1 Squirrel Monkey, 50 Rattlesnakes 51 Bull Snakes, 20 Corais, 16 Testaceous Snakes, 120 Imported Australian Finches, 3 Black Swans, 16 imported African Finches, 2 Blue Budgerigars, 1 Monster Egyptian Mongoose, 1 Squirrel Monkey, 1 Vervet, 1 Ringtail, 6 Polar Bear Cubs direct from The North Cape.

For arrivals (Oct.) see "The Trade."

### WORLD'S ZOOLOGICAL—

January. Nil.

February. Nil.

March. Nil.

April. Nil.

May. Nil.

June. Nil.

July. Nil.

August. Nil.

September. Nil.

See "The Trade" for arrivals.

### ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS—

See "The Trade" for arrivals.

THESE ARE THE ACTUAL IMPORTATIONS.

JOHN D. HAMLYN

TELEGRAMS:

"HAMLYN, LONDON DOCKS, LONDON."

CABLES:

"HAMPARK, LONDON."

TELEPHONE:

AVENUE 4360.

All Postal Orders to be made payable at  
LEMAN STREET, EAST.

Cheques crossed

"London County and Westminster Bank."

## JOHN D. HAMLYN,

Dealer in Wild Animals, Birds, Reptiles and Fish.

221, ST. GEORGES STREET, LONDON, E. 1.

(Opposite London Docks).

1st November, 1919.

### All previous Lists Cancelled.

**Terms: Cash Only.** The Railways and Steamship Companies insist upon carriage in advance, that being so, I charge my Clients cost forward. Boxes in all cases are extra for the larger animals, but I much prefer them returned. The cost of wood, coupled with the ridiculous price of labour necessitate the charge being made.

- 1 Indian Elephant, female, 5 feet high, £400
- 1 " " " 4½ " " £400
- 1 Mare Zebra, 5 years £150
- 2 Llamas, 1 year old, white, each £30
- 1 Llama, 6 months old, brown, each £20
- 3 Rock Rabbits, female (*Hyrax capensis*) each £8
- 1 Spring-bok, female (*Gazella euchore*) each £25
- 1 pair Bless-bok (*Damaliscus albifrons*) £70

A pair of very fine adult animals.

- 3 Chacma Baboons, large fine animals, each £20
- 5 " " mixed sizes, each £12

I have no Chacmas, no matter what size, under £12.

- 7 Vervet Monkeys (*Cercopithecus lalandii*) each £4

Large fine showy animals—very attractive.

- 1 Anubis Baboon, medium size £6
- 2 Callitrix Monkeys, (*callitrichus*) each £3
- 1 " " small, very tame £4
- 1 Pigtailed Monkey (*Macaus nemestrinus*) very fine £12

50 Indian Rhesus Monkeys (*Macaus Rhesus*) each £3

The price of these in December will be £4 each

1 Indian Mountain Squirrel (*Sciurus macrurus*) £3

1 „ Python Snake (*Python Molurus*) 17 feet long £50

3 „ „ „ 9 feet long, each £10

2 Corais Snake (*Coluber corais*) each £4

5 Testaceous or Coachwhip (*Zamenis flagelliformis*) each £3

10 Bull or Says Snake (*Coluber sayi*) £4

All above can be handled safely.

12 Texas Rattlesnake (*Crotalus atroy*) £3

These are poisonus. Can be packed safely.

1 Gigantic Salamander (*Megalodatiachus maximus*) very fine £5

1 Dingo, adult, large, £4

7 Rheas, 14 months old, each £10

Fine young sturdy birds.

2 Adult Emus, (*Dromæus novæ hollandiæ*) bred in South Africa,  
very large birds each £20

2 Female, Upland Goose (*Chloephaga magellanica*) for £10

Pair Stanley Cranes (*Anthropoides paradisea*) for £35

10 Egyptian Geese, (*Chenalopex ægyptiacus*) these from South  
Africa, pair 40/-

4 Herons (*Ardea cinerea*), each 25/-

2 Cormorants *Phalacrocorax cardo*), each 25/-

1 Cock Impeyan (*Lophophorus impeyanus*) £12

£ very fine Monaul, acclimatised.

3 Barn Owls (*Strix flammea*), each 20/-

3 Little Owls, each 20/-

2 Large Yellow Crested Cockatoos, each 60/-

3 Rosy faced Love Birds (*Agapornis roseicollis*), each £4

10 South African Horned Guinea Fowls, each 50/-

(*Numida cornuta*) very rare.

1 Green Cardinal for £3

1 Stanley Parrakeet Adult, for £6

4 Cock Zebra Finches, each 12/6

3 Virginian Cardinals each £4

2 Indigo Finches „ £3

1 Nonpariel Finch, showing color „ £4

2 Olive Finches „ £2

1 Cuban Finch „ £2

2 Saffron Finches	each	£1
3 Redrumps	„	£2
1 Penant, adult, full color	„	£6
1 „ shewing color	„	£4
2 Cockatiels	„	£1
2 Ruficauda	„	£1
Masked Weavers, full color, each		10/6
Cambassous, cocks in colour, pair		15/6
Silverbills	„	12/6
Cutthroats	„	15/6
Paradise Whydahs, cocks, long tails, each		15/6
Paradise Whydahs, cocks, short tails, „		10/6
„ „ not in color, One doz. for		60/-
1 Indian Quail,		15/6
2 „ Doves for		21/-
1 „ Crow Pheasant, very rare		£8
1 Green-winged Bulbul, very rare		£2
3 Grey-winged Ousels, singing, each		£3
1 White-Crested Babbler,		£3
2 White-throated Babblers, each		£3
1 Hardwickes Bulbul, Cock		£4
1 „ „ Hen		£4
2 Barbets, each		£3
2 Redvented Bulbul, each		£2
1 Himalayan Blue Jay for		£3
1 Indian Shrike for		£4
1 Coal-Black Redstart for		£2
1 Coal Tit for		£2
2 Very large Mynahs from Nepaul, each		£5
The first arrival in this country.		
4 Shamahs, Indian Nightingales, each		£4
8 Zosterops, very handsome, each		£2
1 South African Brown Heron, rare,		£5
Beautiful Cock Red Avadavat for		7/6
Avadavats pair for		8/6
Blackheads „ „		8/6
Spice „ „		10/6

### BUDGERIGARS.

20 pairs first class adult Greens for £16  
20 pairs young Yellows for £20  
Greens 17/6 pair, Cocks, 10/-, Hens, 15/6  
Yellows 25/6 pair, Cocks 12/6 Hens 17/6  
A few Continental Blackcaps, each 20/6  
Spanish Goldfinches, arrive November 3rd

### PHEASANTS.

1 Pair Elliots for £12  
1 „ Horsfields „ £12  
1 „ Swinhoes „ £10  
1 Cock Prelat „ £10  
1 Cock Chinguis „ £8

### SHETLAND PONIES.

**Direct Importation.** A few of these hardy little animals, about 30 inches high, rising one year old £12 each upwards.

I have arranged for monthly consignments.

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### NOTICE.

With every order, 1/6 must be included to pay for package and carriage.

JOHN D. HAMLYN.

# Hamlyn's Menagerie Magazine.

EDITED BY JOHN D. HAMLYN

No. 6.—Vol. 5.

LONDON, OCTOBER, 1919.

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

## NOTICE.

The subscription for Vol. V., 1919—20, is 10/—, post free. All subscriptions commence with this number. Yearly subscriptions only received. Specimen copies can be sent post free on receipt of twelve penny stamps. Subscribers not receiving their Magazine should communicate at once with the Editor.

All letters to be addressed in future:—

**JOHN D. HAMLYN,**

**221, St. George's Street, London Docks, E 1,  
London.**

Telephone, Avenue 4360.

Telegrams, Hamlyn, London Docks, London.

The Editor will be pleased to receive sporting articles and reminiscences, as well as items of news and reports of sport from all parts of the world. If stamped directed envelope be enclosed, the contributions will be returned if unsuitable.

All Subscribers in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Spain, Portugal, Switzerland and Holland, who have not received their usual numbers, are requested to communicate at once with the Editor.

## DEATH OF THE OKAPI.

I am sorry to inform my readers that this wonderful animal died on the 29th September last.

Mr. Lhoest writes me as follows:—

"The Okapi was imported on the ninth of August, and died on the twenty-ninth of September.

"It suffered from an illness of the liver, lights, intestines, and a consequential scantiness of blood, notwithstanding the animal has always eaten with very good appetite. It died in fifteen minutes time."

I should imagine our Society are now very thankful they did not give a thousand pounds for this baby. Okapis must only arrive in Great Britain at the end of April to enable them to become acclimatised for the winter.

## THE TRADE.

By JOHN D. HAMLYN.

It is only fair to give a prominent place to the first and only arrivals of the World's Zoological Trading Company.

I have been waiting for Mr. Jordan to send a list of his arrivals, but so far he has not done so.

A client has been good enough to send their price list with particulars of the stock.

Many of the rarer animals died en route, especially the Antelopes. The following arrived:

- 1 Roan.
- 1 White Oryx.
- 2 Gazelles.
- 1 Lion, 3—4 years old, shewing mane.
- 2 Lion Cubs.
- 1 Jackal.
- 15 Baboons.
- 1 Tortoise.
- 1 Python.
- 1 Leopard.
- 1 Leopard Cub.
- 1 Spotted Hyæna.
- 1 Vulture.
- 5 Monkeys.
- 5 Cranes.
- 4 Ostriches.
- 4 Pelicans, and some Storks.

The animals arrived at Brest, and were transhipped to the collier steamer, "Colina," which discharged its interesting cargo at the Barry Docks, Cardiff, thence by train to Hazelmere Park, Buckinghamshire. I was vastly amused

at the extraordinary newspaper reports as to the "Jungle Captures," "Hordes of Animals," with the difference in numbers reported landed.

One paper stated 200, another 100, whilst the "Daily Mirror" stated the value at £4,000.

The pick of the lot, a male Lion, 3—4 years old, shewing a good mane, was sold at the ridiculous place of £150. A Frenchman informs me that £200 was offered for this animal in Brest yet it was brought to London and sold for a paltry £150.

The total expenses must be enormous.

The loss on the entire consignment is very great. If my income for two years amounted to their loss I should be extremely satisfied.

### AFRICAN ANIMALS.

I have received offers of animals from the French Senegal as follows:—

- 4 Lions.
- 1 Hyaena.
- 3 Marabouts.
- 10 Ostriches.
- 1 Giraffe.
- 1 Baboon.
- 10 Pelicans.
- 6 Chimpanzees.

I am still waiting further particulars of these animals. They may, however, be on their way over. I very much doubt whether the young Giraffe and Chimpanzees will arrive alive this inclement weather.

I know nothing as regards ownership.

### GENERAL IMPORTS.

I have received the following animals, particulars of which are given in the accompanying price list:—

- 1 mare Zebra.
- 3 Llamas.
- 3 Rock Rabbits.
- 5 Chacma Baboons.
- 10 African Monkeys.
- 1 African Python.
- 50 Rhesus.

The following animals and birds are expected this month. I cannot guarantee them on account of the difficulties of transport:—

- 6 Arabian Camels.
- 1 Chimpanzee.
- 170 South African Birds.
- 100 Spanish Goldfinches.
- 3 Stanley Cranes.

Quantity of Foreign Geese and some Penguins.

The arrivals are improving. Prices are still high; this is accounted for by excessive freight charges, Port charges, and exorbitant labour conditions.

Mr. Bostock expects on the "Irishman" from Adelaide 1 large White Kangaroo and 3 ordinary Kangaroos. These are the first arrivals of Kangaroos for some years.

The Zoological Society received 2 Musk Oxen, 1 Blue Common Tree Frog, Chameleons, Tortoises, with many other specimens too numerous to mention.

A Midland dealer received direct from Calcutta, Monkeys, with an assortment of Parakeets and small birds.

### LIVERPOOL

arrivals have been some rare specimens of South American birds, also African Baboons and Monkeys. These were brought over by the crews of the respective vessels.

### SOUTHAMPTON

arrivals have been nil. No doubt in time there will be weekly arrivals just as in normal times.

### BUSINESS

in general was never better. Although exports to New York are entirely closed down in consequence of labour troubles, my sales for October amounted to close on £2,000.

Only two Elephants are sold. There seems to be an impression amongst several would-be buyers that the longer I keep the remaining two the cheaper they will be. For goodness sake, don't think anything of the sort; I would sooner lose both my Elephants (£800) than reduce my price one penny. And I always keep my word.



## ELEPHANT HUNTING IN ADDO BUSH.

### MAJOR PRETORIUS' TASK.

It has been my privilege to spend several days in Major Pretorius' advance camp at Kinkel Bosch, and to study his work and methods. The more one sees of this intrepid hunter the more admiration one has for his courage and nerve, and for his wonderful skill and knowledge of bush craft which enables him to do battle with the Addo elephants and overcome them at close quarters. I have personally seen two elephants lying

dead in a thick bush, and a study of the locality has satisfied me that at least twenty or thirty of these monsters were charging through the bush when the Major brought down his victims. The empty cartridge cases and the spoor of the hunters shew that the distance between him and his quarry was only six paces, and the distance between the dead animals was about ten yards. This is accounted for by the fact that one of the elephants struggled on before being brought down by a second shot. There has been a good deal of adverse criticism of the Major's methods in a certain section of the press, but these have their origin either from ignorance or jealousy. I have had the opportunity of closely studying Major Pretorius' work, and I can only say that if there is a man in Africa more capable than he of undertaking the task of dealing with the Addo elephant menace I would very much like to meet him.

My trip was the result of a long standing invitation from Major and Mrs. Pretorius to visit their home in the Addo Bush, and our party of four, including two ladies, left Uitenhage on the afternoon of Wednesday, 20th August, for Addo. On reaching the latter place we were met by the Major's waggonette and team of four horses, but as the hour was late and the road reported to be bad, it was decided to remain over night at Mr. Harvey's hotel, and proceed to the camp in the morning. Our experiences next morning amply bore out the bad character given to the road. As a matter of fact, only a man with a vivid imagination could mistake it for a road. A portion of it could very well pass for an irrigation canal, another part of it is an excellent imitation of the trench system in Flanders, but in no place does it even remotely resemble a road. The only conveyance which could comfortably negotiate it, is an aeroplane, provided it flew high enough to avoid the bumps. In spite of these drawbacks, however, we covered the ten miles which separate the camp from Addo after two hours strenuous labour. On arrival we were most hospitably received by Major and Mrs. Pretorius. The camp is a very commodious and comfortable one and consists of a large officers' mess tent which is nicely furnished as a living and sitting room, while large size bell-tents are made use of as sleeping quarters, and are furnished with comfortable camp beds. A galvanized iron kitchen stands near the mess tent which is supplied with a cooking stove.

The equipment and appointments of the camp are complete and up-to-date, and visitors are made most comfortable. A wire-netting enclosure some little distance away contains the skeletons and hides of the elephants already shot. These are in course of preparation for different museums.

The Major's pack of dogs are a splendid lot and consist of three members of the wolf hound, airdale and Irish terrier breeds. They are used to harass the elephants when they are encountered in the bush. This has the effect of keeping the latter from breaking away, and has on several occasions enabled the Major to increase his bag.

A resident of the camp who deserves a short notice is "Lambie," a pet sheep, with a most ubiquitous appetite. It is the self-appointed camp scavenger and greedily consumes all odd scraps of paper found lying about. Its favourite food is tobacco and cigarettes, and it will eat as many of the latter as it can lay its teeth on. A visitor to the camp while changing his clothes laid a five pound note and his tobacco pouch on the bed in his tent. While he was shaving, "Lambie," who has a knack of entering silently, came along and at once appropriated the fiver. He was industriously chewing the pouch when its owner happened to look round, and was just in time to see the last remnant of his property disappear. "Lambie" and the dogs are great friends, and are frequently to be seen playing together in the early morning after the fashion of puppies.

A representative from the Veterinary Research Department, Pretoria, is staying at the camp. He is an inveterate punster but otherwise quite harmless. His job is to hunt for new species of lice and other parasites which infest the fauna of this country. The first morning we were there a Kaffir brought in a wild cat which had been caught in a jackal trap, the Bug Hunter, as we nick-named the Research Officer, spent the morning picking minute specimens from the fur of the deceased cat with a pair of forceps and placing them in small phials containing spirits. These are forwarded to the Pretoria Laboratory for classification.

On Friday news reached Major Pretorius that the elephants had removed to Kinkel Bush, some 18 miles away, and it was decided to follow them up. Arrangements were consequently made to trek the following day.

Saturday morning was occupied in loading up an ox wagon with tents, camp equipment, provisions, etc., for our trek to Kinkel Bosch. This included camp tables, stoves and beds which fold into the smallest possible compass, and are easily packed for transport. The beds are wonderfully complete, and have a canopy of strong canvas over them with an opening at each side to admit the occupant. These beds do away with the necessity of tents, even in wet weather, and although a tent was available as preferred sleeping in the open air, and can safely say I have never slept more soundly or more comfortably in my life. During the morning the Major and the Bug Hunter set a number of jackal traps in the bush,

which were to be inspected daily by one of the natives. Several wild animals were captured in these traps, including a bushbuck ram, who had the bad luck to put his foot into one of them.

I omitted to mention that Major Pretorius has a retinue of some thirty native servants, who are employed in various capacities; of these six were left in charge of the Addo camp and the rest accompanied us on our trek.

About 2 p.m. everything was in readiness, and the cavalcade, consisting of an ox wagon, the wagonette, which was drawn by four oxen, and was occupied by several members of the party, and Major and Mrs. Pretorius with the rest of their guests on horseback, moved off. The native servants travelled on foot and the dogs accompanied them, being kept on the chain.

After travelling a mile or two we struck a good road, and as the day was cool, had a most pleasant trip through undulating country. There was little or no game to be seen, but monkeys were plentiful, and were frequently to be noticed playing in the bushes.

About 6 p.m. we arrived at "Orlando," a farm owned by Mr. Bean, which is prettily situated on a slope in open country and commands a fine view of the surrounding hills. The house is well built and commodious and there is an excellent fruit garden, but unfortunately much of the fruit is lost through the depredation of birds. We were hospitably received by Mr. and Mrs. Bean, and after enjoying a much needed cup of tea, the oxen were outspanned and arrangements made to camp for the night.

Next morning we were up by daylight and by 7 o'clock everything was in readiness, and a start was made. It was arranged that we should trek for about a couple of hours and then halt for breakfast. The morning was beautifully clear, with just sufficient nip in the air to make it pleasant, and I thoroughly enjoyed the ride, with the Bug Hunter as my half-section. I learnt quite a lot about lice and their little ways during that ride. My companion, who is an ex-army man was full of interesting reminiscences; but his favourite topic of conversation is lice, and what he does not know about a louse is not worth knowing. He was always on the lookout for rare specimens of birds for the purpose of classifying the various lice found on them, and during the journey was successful in bringing down one with his rook rifle, which was new to him. This bird yielded quite a prolific crop of lice of various species, which were carefully bottled and forwarded to the Pretoria Laboratory.

Shortly before 10 o'clock we reached the property of Mr. J. S. Smith named Buffleskloof

—if I remember rightly. Mr. and Mrs. Smith were most kind, and insisted on our breakfasting with them.

After an hour's rest we continued our journey and reached our camping ground about 3 p.m.

The wagon was soon off loaded and the tents pitched, meanwhile the cook boy prepared an ample lunch to which full justice was done. The tables were set out under the trees, and every one enjoyed the meal after the trek through the fresh air. The camp is situated about two miles from Kinkel Bosch Station and a number of farm houses can be seen dotted over the landscape.

One of the chief drawbacks is the absence of water. At Addo it had to be carted three miles, and was quite brackish, but at Kinkel Bosch there was a better supply. The farmers go in for underground tanks and we were fortunate in securing a supply of good water from one of them. The evenings were always a pleasant time, we sat round a big fire in comfortable chairs, and were generally successful in inducing Major Pretorius to relate one of his numerous hunting experiences in Central Africa. These were deeply interesting, and he tells them in a simple straightforward way which holds his listeners' attention. I would much like to retail some of them for my readers benefit but space forbids. The party were early to bed on Sunday evening as the Major intended leaving camp at daylight in search of the elephants.

At daylight on Monday morning, the camp was astir, at least that portion of it occupied by Major Pretorius and the native contingent. As for the rest of us—the Major had refused all and sundry permission to accompany him, and there was nothing for it but to turn round and go to sleep again. The hunting party, which included Major Pretorius, eight gun bearers and dog attendants and, of course, the dogs, moved off toward the bush, and were soon out of hearing. We turned out about 8 o'clock, and just as we were strolling breakfastward we heard four shots in quick succession, and Mrs. Pretorius prophesied that the elephants were making her husband's acquaintance. About an hour and a half later the reports of four more shots reached the camp, and it afterwards transpired that these accounted for two elephants killed and one severely wounded, the dead body of which has been located since. I was out for a holiday and so felt justified in doing nothing, and doing that extremely well. I therefore spent the morning following this delightful occupation. During the few occasions on which I have taken a holiday I have always found it most soothing to watch other people work. The only busy man I could find in the camp was the Bug Hunter, who was sitting at his tent door extracting lice from the feathers

of a deceased and over-ripe crow. I settled comfortably in a deck-chair, well to windward, and learned more facts about lice, their manners and customs. This put in the time until about 12 o'clock, when some one was inconsiderate enough to call out that the Major was coming. The whole party made a dash to the edge of the clearing when Major Pretorius and his party could be seen walking across the veld. Someone with sharper eyes than the rest detected a baby elephant following close behind the Major. Everyone who possessed a camera made a rush for it, and we all trooped across to meet the party. Major Pretorius, on being accosted, expressed a strong desire for a drink, and remarked casually that he had killed three elephants, and left a fourth for dead while he pursued the calf, the last mentioned elephant, however, recovered sufficiently to escape into the bush.

It appears that shortly after entering the bush the elephants were located standing in an open space. The Major did his best to stalk them, but they "got his wind" before he reached them, and quietly slipped into the dense bush. He ultimately reached their position and got close up to one of them. The bush was so thick that he was unable to say, at first, whether he was looking at the beast's head or rump, although only a few yards separated them. After watching for some time he detected the elephant's eye, and at once fired a shot, which penetrated that organ. It took three more shots to finish the beast off, and by this time the rest of the herd had decamped.

After collecting his boys, and leaving a couple of them in charge of the dead elephant, he continued to follow up the spoor, and in about an hour's time came upon the herd again. On this occasion he got right in among them and dropped one at six paces with a single shot, while two others fell after receiving two wounds each, the last animal literally falling on the top of the first beast killed; this one afterwards recovered sufficiently to move some distance away, where it died. The dogs had kept the elephants busy, but by the time the third elephant fell they had broken away, the pace being too fast for the calf, which one of the boys found floundering in the scrub. With considerable difficulty the little chap was secured, and, after being handled for a few minutes, was released. It showed no fear of its captors, and followed closely behind them through the thick bush, and across the veld to the camp. While we remained there it had the free use of the camp, and used to wander about poking its trunk into the beds and tents, and investigating generally. The first two nights it made a great deal of noise, and disturbed our slumber by squealing like a pig in distress, but

this was found to be due to the fact that its keeper tried to force it to go where he wanted it. When left to its own devices it gave no trouble. It soon learned to drink milk from a bottle, and when we left the camp it was in the best of condition, and perfectly at home.

After lunch and an hour's rest, the Major started back to the scene of the morning's shooting, and several of us accompanied him. On the way we were joined by an armed commando composed of surrounding farmers. The news had spread, and they were anxious to see what was to be seen. They were all mounted and everyone carried a firearm of some sort or another. One elderly gentleman was the happy possessor of a Snider rifle—a weapon which was declared obsolete in the British Army 40 years ago—while a small boy brought up the rear with a modern shot gun.

The ride through the bush was anything but a pleasant experience, the track was a narrow elephant path, overhung with thorn trees which took heavy toll of one's clothing. It was necessary, at frequent intervals, to lie flat on the horses neck to avoid branches overhead. It was also very important to keep in close touch with the man in front, as nothing is easier than to get lost in bush of that nature. And here I might remark on the almost uncanny sense of direction and locality possessed by Major Pretorius. Without any difficulty he will go straight to a given spot in the bush, by the shortest route, and never seems to falter or hesitate on the way.

After over an hour's ride the party, which included Mrs. Pretorius and a young lady who had only been out of England five weeks, and who had never been on a horse in her life before that occasion, arrived at the spot where the elephants had been killed. These were lying about ten yards apart in dense bush, which had to be cleared away with axes before the skinning operations commenced.

I made a careful examination of the surrounding bush, and found it flattened down in places if it had been cleared by a gang of Kaffirs. This was caused by the herd (some 30 in number) charging through the bush. One of the elephants had fallen within six paces of where Major Pretorius was standing when he shot it, and the other a few yards further away. The process of skinning is a lengthy one after which the meat is cut up into biltong, and the skeleton removed to the camp. The latter entails a lot of time and labour. A track is cut through the bush and the skeleton is dragged by oxen. It took about a day and a half to get the skull and jaws of one of the beasts to the camp. Elephant meat is quite a delicacy, and tastes not unlike beef. The trunk

stewed with onions makes quite a good dish, and we all enjoyed our dinner when elephant trunk constituted the main item of the menu.

The news of the capture of the baby elephant spread far and wide, and people came long distances to see it. One morning several farmers and the local clergyman left their carts on the velt and walked over to inspect "Jumbo," as he had been named. The latter took it into his head to strole in the direction of the carts. The horses took fright and several of them bolted. The sky-pilot's cape cart was upset but was fortunately brought to a standstill before much damage was done.

On another occasion a particularly stout old lady got down from the cart and was walking toward the camp when she spotted Jumbo about 100 yards away, trotting in her direction. She also took fright and made a dash for her cart which she reached in a breathless condition; meanwhile the elephant, who was quite innocent of evil designs toward her, had turned round and gone back to camp. We remained with our hospitable hosts until the following Friday, when we reluctantly bade good-bye and returned to civilization and the daily round of work. We all look back with the most pleasant recollections of a holiday which contained many unique and interesting experiences.

I greatly regret that the baby elephant mentioned above died two days after purchase by my representative, S. W. Shaw, in the Addo Bush. He writes as follows :—

"Unfortunately the greatest accomplishment I made, viz., the baby elephant, ended disastrously, which I feel very keenly. However, it has taught me one severe lesson, not to ship any elephant unless it is eating solid food, even if it need be somewhat larger. In their milk stage they must have an attendant night and day with a milk bottle. This little fellow could not feed himself; he had to be fed through the medium of a bottle right into the mouth. If he had been crated he would never have reached England."

I have no wish to hurt the feelings of my representative, but he evidently does not understand the treatment of baby elephants.

In the first place he should never have paid £120 for a baby elephant in the bush. The utmost for such a delicate animal is worth between £25 and £50. Not a penny more. The risk is so great with these young animals that £50 would be a fabulous price to pay for any freshly caught animal in the bush.

The old hunters had a price for the day of arrival of the animal in camp and also a price for thirty days after.

My readers can judge from reading the above interesting account what it would cost to bring the baby down to the railway, and then down to the shipping port, and then to London. The cost would be enormous. Out of all proportion to the value of the elephant.

The Cape Government—so my representative informs me—requires £120 cash down same day of capture, or £300 one month after capture. Both figures are absolutely impossible, also highly ridiculous; anyway, I have cabled Shaw to have nothing more to do with Addo Bush elephants. I leave that business to those who have more money than brains.

J.D.H.

## INTERESTING EVENT in EDINBURGH ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

### A KING PENGUIN'S EGG HATCHED.

Professor J. C. Ewart in "The Scotsman" writes :—

For some weeks three of the king penguins in the Zoological Park have attracted an unusual amount of interest. They have been patiently protecting and at the same time providing the heat required for the incubation of an egg laid on the 1st September.

In the king penguin the egg, instead of being laid in a nest and incubated in the usual way, rests from the first on the upper surface of the feet, and is so firmly pressed against the legs by an apron-like fold of skin from the lower abdomen that even when the "sitting bird" is lifted bodily from the ground, the egg is seldom dropped. The mother bird with the assistance of her mate and an unemployed member of this small colony, have been rewarded for their care and devotion since the egg was laid by the appearance, on the 24th October, of what seems to be a healthy normal chick.

Even if the mother penguin, with the help of her mate, fails to rear the chick, it will not have lived in vain, for it will enable ornithologists to ascertain, amongst other things, whether in the king penguin, as in the ringed penguin, there is a natal as well as a juvenile coat of down.

It may be mentioned that the king penguin lives under less trying conditions than the great emperor penguin, for while the latter lives near the Pole, the king never crosses the Antarctic Circle—two favourite haunts of the king penguin being South Georgia and the Macquarie Island, about 600 miles S.W. of New Zealand.

The emperor penguins further differ from the king penguins in never setting foot on land and in hatching their young during the coldest and darkest days of the Antarctic winter. The breeding season of the king penguin, on the other hand, is spread over the Antarctic summer.

There is a well-known king penguin rookery on Macquarie Island. On the east end of the island there is a fringe of kelp; above this, a stretch of pebbles, and then numerous tussocks of tall, coarse grass. Batchelors and unemployed females are found among the tussocks, but the breeding birds are huddled together in a large stony quagmire, which extends inwards towards an overhanging range of hills.

The king penguin colony on the Macquarie Island usually consists in November of a great crowd of breeding birds, a few adults in the act of moulting, of numerous immature birds, and of a considerable number of chicks, still wearing a thick coat of long, hair-like down.

When the late Mr. E. A. Wilson, of the "Discovery" Expedition, visited the Macquarie Island in November, he found a large number of king penguins busily incubating eggs so recently laid that they proved a most acceptable addition to the breakfast table. The visit of Mr. Wilson made it abundantly clear why the egg of the king penguin, instead of being laid in a nest, rests on the feet of the female or her mate, or of other members of the colony, allowed to assist in the process of incubation.

All through the breeding season the penguins are constantly marching to and from the sea, whence they obtain the fish, crustacea, and cephalopods on which they live. One result of these daily journeys is that the quagmire, sooner or later, becomes a foul-smelling sea of mud. To give the chick a chance of developing, the egg must be kept dry and clean. Even with the egg resting on the feet, this would be difficult in the rookery, but for the presence of stones in the quagmire, large enough to afford standing room for one or more of the birds taking part in the incubation.

The desire to mother something is very strong in penguins. Mr. Wilson estimated that over 70 per cent. of the emperor chicks hatched are killed by kindness—if an emperor chick is deserted for a few minutes, there is at once a scrimmage of a dozen or more adults for its possession. In the case of the king penguin, the competition for the chicks is not so great, but there are probably always two or three birds, in addition to the parents, anxious to take part in the incubation of the egg and, later, in the feeding of the growing chick.

On the "Discovery" an emperor chick was kept alive for a considerable time on seal flesh; it required to be fed by night as well as by day. During the night it attracted the attention of its keeper by whistling, and then waited patiently for about twenty minutes while the flesh was being masticated.

It is worthy of special note that in the case of the king penguin in the Scottish Zoological Park the period of incubation extended over 7 weeks and 4 days—that is the time usually said to be occupied in the hatching of an emperor penguin, and it may be safely asserted that this is the first occasion on which a king penguin has been hatched outside the Antarctic regions.

If the parents succeed in rearing their chick, a unique record will be established.



## SHORTAGE OF OSTRICHES.

### QUESTION OF FUTURE SUPPLIES.

A Port Elizabeth correspondent of the "Cape Times" in dealing with the feather revival that has taken place, says:—

Perhaps the most important phase of the present condition of the market is the question of future supplies. There is no need to recapitulate the factors connected with the great reduction of the Union's flocks of ostriches during the past five years. Beyond this result of the severe depression and the terrible drought of 1915—16, another result which is looming large as a factor in to-day's and the future situation is the indifference which hundreds of farmers (particularly the smaller farmers) have displayed towards those of their birds which have survived. They have not carried out the usual periodical plucking, with the result that the feathers on their birds have deteriorated in quality severely. This means that there is, this season at any rate, bound to be a somewhat pronounced lack of the best types. Then we have the effect of the death of so many thousands of birds. The fact is that everything points to a very acute shortage in the supply at no distant date. It is looming near now.

At the present moment the supplies on the market are almost entirely pre-war stock which has been stored away in preservatives for five long years. When these are worked off the market will find itself short, and that fact opens up a whole vista of possibilities. On the one hand you have the feather rapidly advancing in favour as the ruling fashion, and on the other you have the only country producing the best types unable

to supply the heavy demand. Furthermore, London and Paris have not yet made themselves felt on the market. It is not at all improbable that we shall find some really fancy prices being paid for feathers before the supply balances the demand.

One thing is clear, and that is that this cannot occur for at least a couple of years. During recent years there has been a total lack of breeding chicks. Of course, breeding is bound to start right away, but the chicks which result cannot give a marketable plucking for at least three years. Therefore, if the fashion is maintained for the next couple of years it is patent that the ostrich farmer is going to make good some of the grievous losses he sustained during the War. And no one will begrudge him his good fortune. The industry has presented real benefits to the country, and its prosperity will accentuate the present progress of agriculture generally. As for the feather merchant, he stands to lose or gain with the farmer. At present he is gaining—in handfals.

## GENERAL NOTES.

By JOHN D. HAMLYN.

THAT the Natural History Museum of New York publishes a summary of scientific results obtained in Uélé by the expedition of Messrs. Lang and Chapin, who were six years in the Congo. The cost of the expedition was 290,000 francs, and resulted in the acquisition of an enormous number of specimens of animals, birds, serpents, fishes, and insects. M. Chapin has also brought back 300 water-colour paintings, whilst M. Lang has collected 9,890 photographs! The Tervueren Museum is to receive duplicates of all these acquisitions, in the transport of which 38,000 natives were at different times employed.

THAT a Sea Cow has just arrived at New York Zoo and is said to be the only specimen in captivity.

THAT a skeleton of a gigantic dinosaur has been found in Wyoming. These great prehistoric beasts, which lived in the water, had the most enormous battery of teeth known to the animal world, as they had 2,000 in the upper and lower jaw.

THAT the new tunnel at the Zoo will shortly be completed.

THAT the following is from a Somersetshire paper:—

"Mr. Wm. Manley, of this village, was much surprised to find one day this week one of his valuable ferrets running loose. After close examination it was found that a rat had eaten its way through the bottom of the ferret's hutch, and thus released the occupant, and had devoured its food. Next day the same thing happened, but with the result that both ferret and rat were discovered in the same trap. The rat was dead, but happily the ferret was only caught by the foot. It is generally understood that a rat will not approach a ferret's box under any circumstances. This may help to draw readers' attention to the necessity of the National Rat Week, which is to take place in October, when everyone is asked to make away with as many as possible of the daring marauders."

THAT some most interesting books on "The Natural History of South Africa," Vols. I. and II., by F. W. Fitzsimons, have just been published by Longman's, Green and Co., 9/- each volume.

THAT the sales of skins at College Hill Public Sale Room on October 28th, was heartbreaking to read—200,000 Opossum, 3,00 Chinchilla, 100,000 Ermine, 4,000 Bear, 17,000 Wolves, 700 Leopard. How long is this slaughter to continue?

THAT 18 Skunks arrived on the s.s. "Michigan" from New York for the Zoological Society, Regents Park.

THAT the old established house of Castang's, Leadenhall Market, famous all the world over for Waterfowl and General Live Stock, closed down this month. I trust Mr. Castang will long be spared to enjoy his retirement from active work.

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